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U.S. Patent Application

TAPE APPLICATION DEVICE Inventors: Tsuyoshi MAEDA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1304 Serial No: 08/826,754 Examiner: unassigned Filed: March 24, 1997

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Sir:

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Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application. Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration of relevant portions thereof by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

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In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the listed non-English language documents, each of the documents is discussed at page 3 of the specification of the present application.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,

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Bv:

John M. Romary

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Dated: September 19, 1997

ERNEST F. CHAPMAN Reg. No. 25,961